

In the Claims:

The following is a listing of the claims pending in the application. Applicants request entry of the following amendments:

Claims 1-41 (canceled).

42. (currently amended) A composition comprising an [An] isolated peptide prepared by expressing an expression vector wherein said expression vector comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

43. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 42, wherein said composition [peptide] further comprises an adjuvant.

44. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 42, wherein said peptide comprises a preparation for use as a vaccine.

45. (currently amended) A composition comprising an [An] isolated peptide prepared by expressing an expression vector wherein said expression vector comprises a nucleic acid homologous to [a] nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

46. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 45, wherein said composition [peptide] further comprises an adjuvant.

47. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 45, wherein said peptide comprises a preparation for use as a vaccine.

48. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 45, wherein said expression vector [nucleic acid] encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO:8.

49. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 45, wherein said expression vector comprises a nucleic acid with at most about 25-30% base pair mismatches when compared to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

50. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 49, wherein said peptide further comprises an adjuvant.

51. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 49, wherein said peptide comprises a preparation for use as a vaccine.

52. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 45, wherein said expression vector comprises a nucleic acid with 15-25% base pair mismatches when compared to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

53. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 45, wherein said expression vector comprises a nucleic acid with 5-15% base pair mismatches when compared to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

54. (currently amended) A composition comprising an [An] isolated peptide prepared by expressing an expression vector wherein said expression vector comprises a fragment of at least 30 nucleotides of a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

55. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 54, wherein said nucleic acid comprises a fragment of at least 50 nucleotides of a nucleic acid selected

from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

56. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 55, wherein said composition [peptide] further comprises an adjuvant.

57. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 55, wherein said peptide comprises a preparation for use as a vaccine.

58. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 54, wherein said nucleic acid comprises a fragment encoding between about 30 to about 100 amino acids of SEQ ID NO:8.

59. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 54, wherein said nucleic acid comprises a fragment of between about 100 to about 300 base pairs of a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the sequence shown from base number 5147 through 7129 in SEQ ID NO:6 and the sequence shown from base number 5117 through 7096 in SEQ ID NO:10.

60. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 59, wherein said peptide further comprises an adjuvant.

61. (currently amended) The composition [peptide] of claim 59, wherein said peptide comprises a preparation for use as a vaccine.